

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Research Section of the Czechoslovak State Film Corporation, National Enterprise

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1. The research and development section of the Czechoslovak State Film Corporation is divided into two sections, one working on materials research, and one on technical research. Research on materials is carried on in a villa near the zoological gardens in Praha-Troja. The chief of the staff is Dr. Feigel, the former technical manager of Mimosa, a photographic materials firm in Dresden. The administrative chief of the section is Ing. Ladislav Krivanek, the former manager of the Czechoslovak Film Institute. Krivanek is a member of the Communist Party and has made two trips to the USSR to study. He returned from the second trip in 1949 disillusioned with conditions in the USSR. The staff is to be expanded from 12 to 20 chemists. Most of the workers have no political affiliation. Research on materials is at present directed toward the production of a positive film (Kopierfilm). This was formerly imported to the value of ninety million kcs per year.
2. Technical research is carried on in the former Arcanie building in Praha XIX-Vokovice. This section employs about 25 persons but is in the process of expanding to twice that size. Five to ten university students also work there at irregular intervals. Some of the leading personnel include:

Chief of research
Chief of the Electro-acoustical
Department
Chief of the Optical Department

Dr. Miroslav Jahoda
Ing. C. Jaroslav Ledrer

Chief of the Optical Department

Dr. Jaroslav Pechar, formerly with
Optikotechna in Prerov (P50/030)
and with Zeiss

Chief of the Photo-chemical
Department

Frantisek Sojka

3. The technical research section is concerned with the use of film and with electro-acoustical problems. Light filters are produced and prototypes of devices for amplifying, reproducing and recording sound are being developed. This section cooperates closely with the Institute of Technical Optics under Dr. Josef Hrdlicka at the Technical University in Praha. It has also cooperated from time to time with the Military Research Institute (VTU) in Tanwald (051/G36) on the determination of the sensitivity and quality of photographic materials for the recording of televised images. The State Film Corporation has maintained close liaison with the VTU in order to obtain

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colors for the production of infra-red filters. Such colors, alcohol-soluble Azo salts, were imported into Czechoslovakia from the United States by the Czech Military Attache. The filters themselves are made from plastics.

4. A factory for the Czechoslovak State Film Corporation is to be built soon near Liptovsky Sv. Mikulas in the valley of the Jalovec River about three km. north of Jalovec (Q50/Y10). This site was chosen because of the good water supply and the absence of dust in the area. Ing. Ladislav Krivanek is to be appointed manager of the plant. It is expected that the new plant will suffer from a lack of photographic gelatin, which until recently was not produced in Czechoslovakia, of photographic celluloid, which must be imported, from a lack of machines used to coat the celluloid with gelatin (These machines were produced by Koebig in Dresden), and of accurate perforating machines.

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